

WI-638
J. Clarence Parker House
Salisbury
Private

1911

Essentially unchanged since the early twentieth century, the J. Clarence Parker house is an intact example of the American four-square dwelling that was popularly employed in town and farm settings throughout Wicomico County and the lower Eastern Shore.

Blockish in proportion and covered by broad hip roof, the side entrance plan dwelling is finished with a mixture of Colonial Revival and Victorian features. The William Street elevation is enhanced by a Tuscan columned porch that shelters the front entrance, which is framed by a neoclassical surround including generous sized sidelights and a five-light transom. Fixed atop the hip roof is a hip roofed dormer pierced by a bank of six-over-one sash windows. Reflecting a holdover influence from Victorian design is the two-story, three-sided pavilion that extends the west side.

The four-square dwelling was built around 1911 for J. Clarence and Verta Parker following the acquisition of the lot for \$100. In the 1907 Salisbury City directory J. C. Parker is listed as a "clerk" with his wife Verta at a house the couple rented at 812 East Church Street. Following Clarence Parker's death in 1920 the property passed to his wife Verta, and then to the two children, Marion W. Parker and Irene Parker Todd. The house and lot remained under the Todd name until May 2001.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-638

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic J. Clarence Parker House
other Parker-Todd House

2. Location

street and number 112 East William Street not for publication
city, town Salisbury vicinity
county Wicomico

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Matthew D. Taylor and Lisa M. Martin
street and number 112 East William Street telephone
city, town Salisbury state Maryland zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1633 folio 59
city, town Salisbury tax map 107 tax parcel 782 tax ID number 5-022975

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	2	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-638

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The J. Clarence Parker house, also known as the Parker-Todd house, stands at 112 East William Street in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, early twentieth-century four-square frame dwelling faces north with the principal roof oriented on a north/south axis. Supported on a raised brick foundation with an excavated cellar, the four-square dwelling is sheathed with plain weatherboard siding, and the steeply pitched hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing. Joining the house on the lot is a single-story hip roofed frame garage.

Built around 1911, the two-and-a-half story, two-bay by two-bay frame four-square dwelling has a two-bay north (main) elevation that is defined by a side entrance and flanking window bay. The paneled front door is framed by a five-light transom and five-light sidelights. The front door, transom and sidelights are framed by a neoclassical Colonial Revival surround. Filling the adjacent bay is a nine-over-one sash window flanked by narrow six-over-one side windows. Sheltering the first floor is a shed roofed front porch supported on Tuscan columns. A cross gable is centered over the entrance bay. The second story is defined by nine-over-one sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. Centered on the hip roof is a large hip roofed dormer fitted with three six-over-one sash windows.

The east side elevation is marked by an asymmetrical fenestration with an off-center cross gable projecting from the southeast corner. Located mid-way in the main wall surface is a squarish colored glass window. An exterior cellar entrance door pierces the foundation wall.

The west side is an asymmetrical wall surface with a projecting two-story, three-sided bay pavilion off the southwest corner. Topped by a gable-front roof with an enclosed pediment, the pavilion is lighted on each face by nine-over-one sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. Attached to the northwest end of the west wall is an exterior/interior brick chimney stack that pierces the eave.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing lighted by nine-over-one sash windows. Extending from the south side of the service wing is a two-story, shed roofed porch. An interior brick stack pierces the roofline.

Standing southwest of the house is a single-story rectangular frame garage covered by a hip roof and sheathed with plain weatherboard siding.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-638

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Essentially unchanged since the early twentieth century, the J. Clarence Parker house is an intact example of the American four-square dwelling that was popularly employed in town and farm settings throughout Wicomico County and the lower Eastern Shore. Blockish in proportion and covered by a broad hip roof, the side entrance house is finished with a mixture of Victorian and Colonial Revival features. The William Street elevation is enhanced by a Tuscan columned porch that sheltered the front door, which is framed by a neoclassical surround including generously sized sidelights and a five-light transom. Fixed atop the hip roof is a hip roofed dormer pierced by a bank of six-over-one sash windows. Reflecting a holdover influence from Victorian architecture is a two-story, three-side pavilion on the west side.

The four-square dwelling was built around 1911 for J. Clarence and Verta Parker following acquisition of the lot for \$100.¹ In the 1907 Salisbury City directory J. C. Parker is listed as a “clerk” with his wife Verta at a house they rented at 812 East Church Street.² Following Clarence Parker’s death in 1920 the property passed to his wife and two children, Marion W. Parker and Irene Parker Todd.³ The house and lot remained under Todd family ownership until 2001.⁴

¹ Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 76/210, 5 August 1911.

² Salisbury City Directory, 1907, transcribed by Family Tree Bookshop, p. 39.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 413/280, 11 August 1956.

⁴ Wicomico County Land Record, 1822/55, 11 May 2001.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-638

Name J. Clarence Parker House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

J. Clarence Parker House
112 East William Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 107, Parcel 782

1822/55 Nevins W. Todd, Jr.

to

5/11/2001 Matthew D. Taylor
Lisa M. Martin

MSB 1575/577 Irene Parker Todd

to

12/3/1997 Nevins W. Todd, Jr.
\$80,000

JWTS 413/280 Verta P. Parker, widow
Marion W. Parker
Katherine H. Parker

to

8/11/1956 Irene Parker Todd
(upon the death of the said J. Clarence Parker, intestate in the year
1920 became vested in Verta P. Parker, his widow and said Marion
W. Parker and Irene Parker Todd, his children)

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-638

Name J. Clarence Parker House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

EAT 76/210 Carroll L. Brewington, widower

to

8/5/1911 J. Clarence Parker

EAT 49/132 Laura F. White
Gustavus W. White

to

4/3/1906 Carroll L. Brewington

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Salisbury City Directory, 1907, transcribed and printed by Family Tree Bookshop, 1998.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1911 and 1916, microfilm at the Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 6,390 square feet
Acreage of historical setting 6,390 square feet
Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	11/14/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

SALISBURY
Mo.

E. ISABELLA

WI-638
J. Clarence Parker House
Salisbury
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911

E. WILLIAMS

PARSONS

12

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J. Clarence Parker House
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1916

8

E. ISABELLA

37

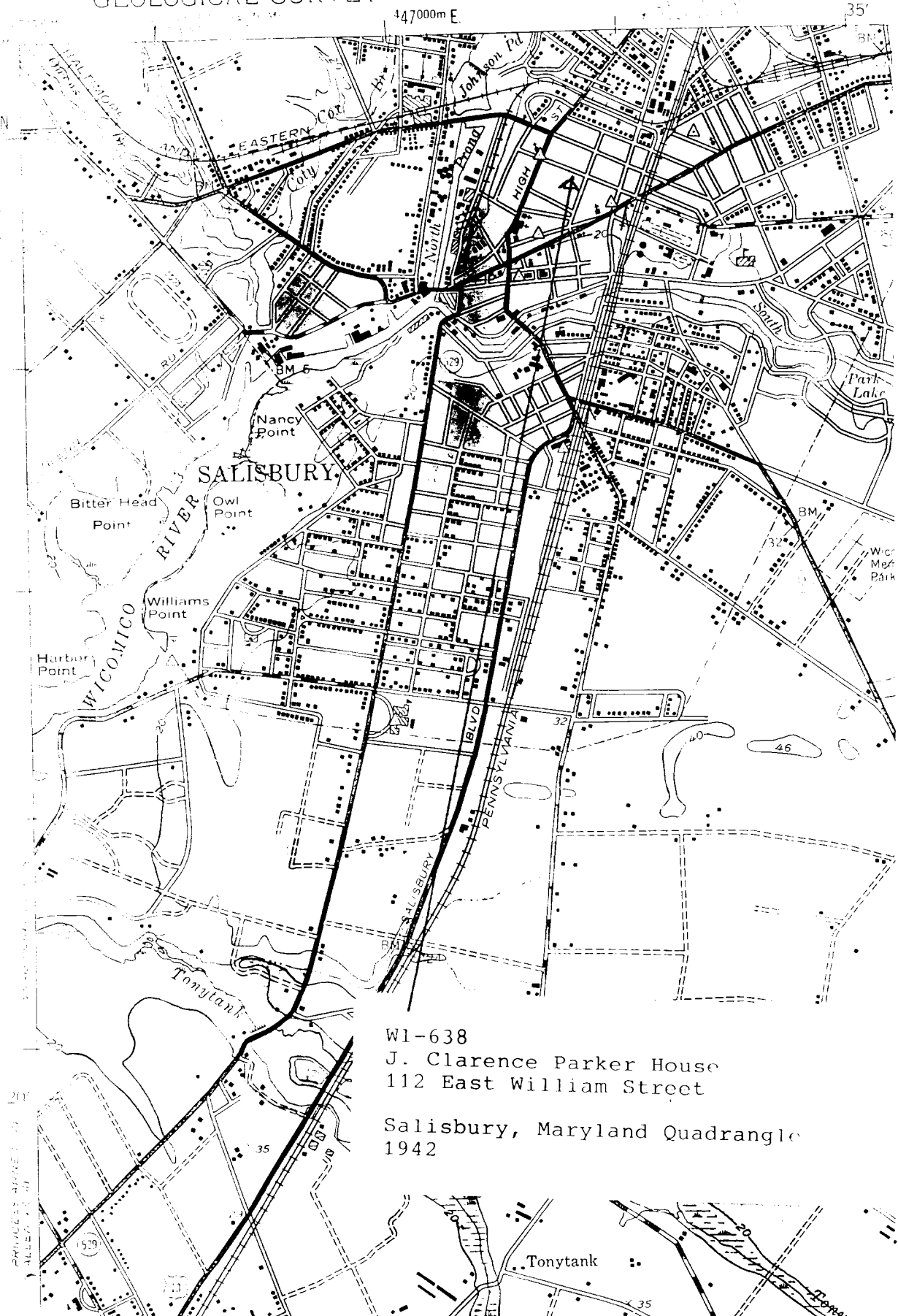
E. WILLIAMS

36

PARSONS

AV.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





WI-630

J. CLARENCE PARKER HOUSE
SARASOTA, MANICHO C., MD
NORTHEAST ELEVATION

11/01, PAUL TOWN, PHOTOGRAPHIC
NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 OF 2



W1-638

L. CLARENCE PARKER House
SARISBURY, NEWCOMB CO. MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

11/01, PAUL TOURANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEE. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2 OK 2